



the RARRA RAG

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NO.6

ATV ON A BLIMP

Jon Arney, WB3LHI

Amateur radio is flying high at the Rochester Institute of Technology these days. The campus amateur radio club, K2GXT, has been operating real-time ATV onboard radio controlled model aircraft and a blimp. This has evolved into an ambitious senior design project by a group of engineering students. Recently the group is involved in developing a 10 ft. model airplane to carry ATV, GPS, using a packet radio transmitter.

ATV on a blimp!!! Ever wanted to pilot a blimp and race the zamboni at a hockey game? K2GXT does it regularly, and efforts are underway to retransmit the live video to a remote location on campus via ATV.

Members of the RIT amateur radio club, Jason Farnung, K2WLK, and Jim Stefano, W2COP, are leading an effort to develop ATV, and other image and data oriented systems for K2GXT. Jason is club president and Jim is a staff member with the Electoral Engineering department. They, and other members of the RIT club, will attend the RaRa meeting, on February 7th, to give a show-n-tell update of K2GXT activities and to show images from the airplane and blimp.

RaRa MEETING

February 7, 2003

8:00 PM

**HENRIETTA FIRE HALL
3129 E. HENRIETTA RD.**

ATV ON A BLIMP

PRESENTED BY

Jon Arney WB3LHI

PUBLIC SERVICE

Keith Freeberg N2BEL

Ontario Shore Marathon - an event to benefit the Arthritis Foundation

Date: Saturday, May 3, 2003

Location: Starting and ending at Hamlin Beach State Park

Description: Runners (individuals and relay teams) challenge themselves to

Achieve their personal best time for either a full (26.2 mile) or half (13.1

Mile) Marathon. The first runners will start from Hamlin Beach State Park at

8:30 A.M. All radio volunteers will need to be on their assigned location

Prior to start time.

Tour De Cure - A bicycle tour sponsored by the American Diabetes Association

Date: Saturday, June 8, 2003

Location: Starting and ending at Hamlin Beach State Park

Description: Bicyclists tour scenic Western New York Roadways on one of the

Well marked tour course. There are five predefined distances for riders to

Choose from to challenge their riding skills or simply enjoy a scenic ride.

Ride distances include; 10, 25, 40, 62.5, 100mile courses and, new this Year, a special

'Inside the Park Only' Parent-Child Ride for families not Quite ready for the longer routes.

Each route requires several operators. The first bicyclists will start from Hamlin Beach State

Park at 8:30 A.M. All radio volunteers will need to be on their assigned location prior to

Start time. This is a fun event for those new to Amateur Radio as complete Training is given

to help each operator know exactly what to do and Communicate about any given situation.

Breakfast, lunch and dinner are provided for amateur radio operators Participating in day of event activities.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

the RARA RAG

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RARA Hotline 442-0587 Website: www.rochesterham.net

Editor.....Raymond R. Pickens WA2MYG
215 Mystic Lane Rochester, NY 14623-5426 (585) 334-8724
Internet: wa2myg@rochester.rr.com

Managing Editor.....John A. (Jack) Kuecken KE2QJ
2 Round Trail Drive Pittsford, NY 14534-3202 (585) 381-5455
Internet: ke2qj@aol.com

Assistant Editor.....George E. Platteter AA2FO

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OFFICERS:

President: MaryKay Vesco, KC2DPG.....381-7773
Internet: kc2dpg@aol.com
Vice-President: George Platteter, AA2FO.....334-4488
Internet: aa2fo@localnet.com
Secretary: Bill Kasperkoski, WB2SXY.....334-7640
Internet: wb2sxy@arrl.net
Treasurer: Richard Goslee K2VCZ.....334-1762
Internet: rgoslee@rochester.rr.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Dale Fravel, N2LWY.....581-1175
Internet: n2lw@arrl.net
Keith Freeberg, N2BEL.....458-8246
Internet: n2bel@frontiernet.net
Edwin Holdsworth, N2EH.....624-1929
Internet: n2eh@frontiernet.net
Bill Hopkins, AA2YV.....586-5009
Internet: wlhopkin@naz.edu
George Masny, KA2GPJ.....377-7853
Internet: ka2gpj@arrl.net
Greg Michels, KC2GXV.....217-9708
Internet: kc2gxv@arrl.net
Jack Tripp, W2JAT.....381-7757
Internet: w2jat@arrl.net

Club Historian: Ed Gable, K2MP
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THE PREZ SAYS

MaryKay Vesco KC2DPJ

I wanted to start out by giving everyone who attended the January Meeting a Great Big Ole Thank You!! You really showed your support by coming out in a storm to socialize and listen to a great new topic "Echolink". Jon Dickason, N2JCC was a wonderful presenter for this program. Thank you Jon, your program was greatly appreciated by many hams. If you were unable to attend the January Meeting, you can download the "Echolink" program free of charge at: www.echolink.org

Don't forget, the deadline for the Scholarship award is approaching soon. If you know a ham currently in college or planning to attend college, get that ham to become a RaRa member, or if you are a RaRa member, Request a Scholarship application. Good Luck on being selected the winner; we have a great Scholarship committee.

I would also like to give George Platteter, AA2FO, a huge thank you for doing a wonderful job as Vice President this year, being very helpful with the RaRa Rag over the years, and taking a very active part in Public Relations, being the RaRa VE Team leader for many years. If you took any testing at the Hamfest in the last couple years, it is thanks to George that they have been On-Site and More than one day! Thank you so much for all of your hard work, George. So if you hear him on the bands, let him know how much you appreciate all of his hard work and dedication.

Don't forget, if you have some extra time on your hands, give Keith Freeberg, N2BEL a call, he is always looking for help with the Youth Development Programs, We'd be very grateful for the help I thank you in advance for your participation.

Hope to see you all at the February 2003 Meeting, and don't forget to bring a guest! Thank you.

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COUNTINUED FROM PLUBLIC SERVICE PAGE 1
Also, an after event 'Thank You' Event is staged for all volunteers each year. This year's event was held at

The Strathallen in Rochester and the efforts of amateur radio operators to

Make the event a success were specifically honored.

America's Walk for Diabetes - sponsored by the American Diabetes Association (ADA)

Date: Saturday, September 13, 2003

Location: Cobb's Hill Park and Park Ave. area, Rochester, NY

Time: Walkers start from Cobb's Hill Area at 8:30 A.M.

Description: The 'Walk' starts in the Cobb's Hill Area winding through Residential streets to the trendy Park Avenue Area and returning to Cobb's Hill all before lunch. This is an excellent event for those with two-meter handhelds as we are Always in the right spot for good repeater coverage. The ADA provides an Eclectic breakfast and a great submarine sandwich luncheon for all its Volunteers that day. Lots of fun, pleasant early fall day, and nothing more Strenuous to do than use our radios. What could be better?

FOR SALE:

T-50H Aluma heavy duty Tower. 50 feet tall, rated for 100 Mile winds and tilts to work on the antenna. Retail for \$2,500. Asking \$2,250. Detailed technical specs at <http://www.alumatower.com>.

Also, Yaesu G-1000SDX heavy duty antenna rotor. Retail for \$469 + S&H. Asking \$400. Buy both

For \$2,600!!! . Call Esteban Piva N2MLG (585) 746-5118.

RaRa Rag 20 Years Ago, February 1983

Ed Gable K2MP

The program for this meeting was an interesting topic of the different types of SSB modulation techniques. The speaker, Tom Wise, of RF Communications, also demonstrated the new stereo AM mode. A front page, full width headline, invited all to the RaRa Valentine Dinner Party. Held at the Packet Room of the Hilton Inn-on-the-

Campus, the \$15.00 dollar tickets were available from Don Drennon, W2EBF, Alan Komenski, AC2K and Jim O'Brien, K2UDP. This was an unusual RaRa Rag as it was delivered by Air-Mail. It seems your editor, Ron Jacobowski, K2RJ, was vacationing and finishing the Rag at the same time. Realizing he could not get the Rag into distant bulk mailing, he called upon member Gordon Bass, K2UIR, to solve the problem. Gordy flew his private plane to Ron, picked up the completed Rags, and deposited them into the local mail drop. Ron Jacobowski was also cited this month as the RaRa Rag was selected the newsletter of the month by 73 Magazine. Completing an almost two year project, Jim O'Brien, K2UDP, unveiled the new and stunning full-color RaRa member QSL cards. The cards featured a futuristic artwork showing major downtown Rochester buildings with roadways, vehicles and other smaller objects depicted as electrical components. The artworks were the result of work by students at R.I.T. QSL's were available to members at \$25.00 for 1000 pieces with callsign printing the responsibility of the buyer. Irv Goodman, AF2K, subsequently printed 1000's of these cards. Dave Rubin, N3CKH, reported that a new ham station at the Jewish Community Center would be dedicated by featured speaker Jim Taylor of the Buffalo FCC office.

RaRa Historian Bruce Kelley, W2ICE, kicked off a multi-part feature on the history of local radio stores such as: E.C. Sykes of front St., Beucaire's on Lawrence St., Rudolph Schmidt at 51 East Ave. and Hickson Electric on Corinthian Street, to mention a few. Ed Neubauer, N2BXA, of Sykes Datatronics, spoke at the RRRA meeting conjecturing that there would be a PC in every home by 1985. Tom Richmond, WB2IEY, reported a new two-meter beacon on 144.051. Frank Cona, W2WPY, was reported as a silent key. From the Want Ads you could by a mint Drake R7 receiver from Chuck Oneski, K2YCO.

SILENT KEYS

Josephine E. Keltz W2WOW

December 26, 2003

Leo J. Halpin W2KSW

January 19, 2003

KIDS DAY

Peter Fournia W2SKY

Four youths and two parents participated in the 2003 Kids Day hosted at the Xerox Amateur Radio Club station in Webster on January 4. They enjoyed the opportunity to talk with other kids around the nation. They talked with 6-7 different stations over a 2 hour period. Some stations hosted multiple kids and had engaging control operators. Each of our students participated in multiple conversations. In addition to HF radio, Echolink, repeaters and public service were demonstrated.

We sent a follow-up letter to 12 students in the fall 2002 Radio Coach class hosted by RaRa. One item in that letter was an invitation to participate in this Kids Day event. Two Radio Coach Students responded to the invitation but only one attended. Three others attended in response to an invitation extended to the Civil Air Patrol by Larry Lavery (WW2J).

The boy, Martin, completed the Radio Coach Program at Jefferson Middle School. The three girls are from Spencerport and were accompanied by Chuck Blocher, KC2IQV, who is active with the CAP. The XARC members who assisted were Brian (K2AS), Bob (K2OID), Ned (KC2FLM), Jon (N2JAC) and Peter (W2SKY).

RaRa

Amateur Radio License Testing

All Elements Needed To Complete
A License Class

SATURDAY

FEBRAURY 15, 2003

Registration – 8:30 AM

Testing – 9:00 AM

Monroe Community Hospital

(South Entrance)

435 E. Henrietta Road

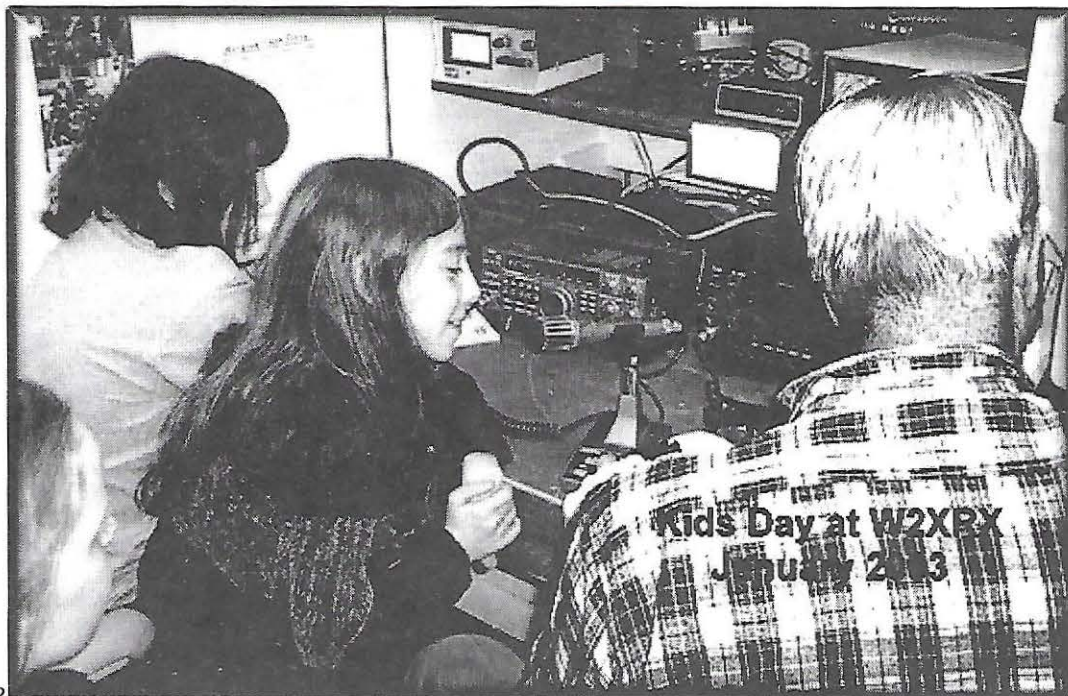
Rochester, NY

(Enter complex off East Henrietta Rd.
Bear to the left, just before the third speed
Bump the South entrance will be on your
Right park in lot to your left)

RaRa LICENSE CLASS

Ray Pickens WA2MYG

As this is my first tour at being License Class Director I really have no point of reference But all things considered I think the class as a whole went very well. We started with 21 students (and one instructor who upgraded along with his class) on September 9th and The bottom line being out of the 21 there



were two drop outs and two failures 18 either Passed their entry level exam (three of those passed the CW exam) and the rest all upgraded To a higher class license.

The second semester will start at the Monroe Community Hospital with registration on February 10, 2003 at 19:00 running for the next 12 Monday nights with the 13th week being A special class only VE session. Kevin WB2QMY will be teaching CW with Allen N2VY Teaching Technician theory and Ron N2TLX teaching General theory and Carl KU2N Teaching Extra theory. For more information go to www.rochesterham.org.

SCHOLARSHIP REMINDER

Dick Goslee K2VCZ

The deadline for submitting applications for the third annual RaRa Memorial Scholarship is April 15, 2003. The "Rochester Amateur Radio Association Memorial Scholarship" has been established with generous donations made in memory of Leland Zwack, W2WPF, William Buchan, W2OMV and William Resch, K4VOS. The scholarship is available to any licensed Amateur Radio operator who is or will be pursuing any degree of Associate level or higher in any accredited school beyond high school. The individual must be a member of RaRa and a resident of New York State. The scholarship is for one individual for one year, but the recipient may reapply for subsequent years.

Applications for the scholarship may be obtained at RaRa general meetings, by mail at P.O. Box 93333, Rochester, NY 14692-8333 or by calling the RaRa phone at 442-0587. Additional information and a copy of the application are available on the Rochester Amateur Radio Association web site at <http://www.rochesterham.org/> or from one of the officers.

Additional "tax exempt donations" in memory W2WPF, W2OMV, K4VOS or any other silent key may be sent to: Rochester Amateur Radio Association, Inc., Memorial Scholarship, P.O. Box 93333, Rochester, NY 14692-8333.

RAG DEADLINE 2/18/200

RaRa Hotline (585) 442-0587 24X7

Local Checking for ARRL Awards

Ed Gable K2MP

A long standing goal for Ham operators has been to complete contacts for working all states, or for working 100 grids on VHF/UHF or for achieving DXCC by working 100 countries of more. These ARRL awards can be processed locally by ARRL Field Checker Ed Gable, K2MP. Ed will verify your QSL cards and mail your application forms to ARRL HQ. It is no longer necessary to mail your precious cards off to Newington. For details on the awards go to www.arrl.org. To set up an appointment contact Ed at k2mp@arrl.net or (585) 392-3088. Card checking at the Rochester Hamfest is also planned.

Atlantic Division Director Recognized

Ed Gable K2MP

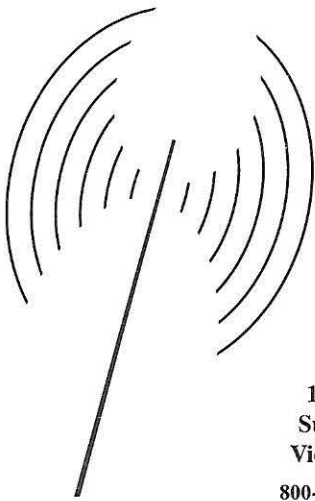
RaRa would like to acknowledge and congratulate out own ARRL Atlantic Division Director, Bernie Fuller, N3EFN, for just being elected to the ARRL Executive Committee. This honor recognizes a persons already demonstrated ability to get involved and effectively participate in finding solutions to the problems facing ham radio today, as well as setting future direction. We, as members of the Atlantic Division, should feel proud and secure knowing our Director is so ably representing our needs.

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